Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—(a) No answer is possible as the period for which the information is asked for is indefinite.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Nine.

(d) From 8th February 1935 to 13th July 1935.

(e) From 28th January 1935 to 24th March 1935.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—To say the exact number of instances the period may be necessary. But to say whether there was any instance at all it is not necessary. So will the Government be pleased to answer the question?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—To the best of my knowledge, No.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Any instance in the History of Cochin when there were two areas plague stricken simultaneously?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—After I took charge the Department, No. For the period before that I am sorry I cannot give.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—The question was put to the Government.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There was one occasion 13 years ago when both Mattancheri and Ernakulam were plague infected.

Mr. T. C. Iyyukutty.—Are there not rat falls even now in Kunnamkulam?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—No instance has been brought to my notice.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—What compelled the D. P. H. to leave the State when there were rat falls?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—I was deputed on special duty by the Government.

The Malayalam Improvement Committee—members of.

63. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the names of the members of the present Malayalam Improvement Committee;

(2) why was their tenure of office extended;

(3) the names of the gentlemen proposed to be the members of the Committee that is to be reconstituted?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(1), (2) and (3). The Malayalam Improvement Committee has since been reconstituted (D. P. D. Dis. 12372/10, dated 4th July 1935). The following were the members of the old Committee.—

(1) H. H. Rama Varma Appan Thampuran—President.
(2) M. R. Ry. P. M. Sankaran Nambiyar Avl., M. A., L. T., Assistant Professor, Maharaja's College, Ernakulam (Member).
(3) K. Kesavan Nayar, Avl., Malayalam Pandit, Maharaja's College, Ernakulam (Member).
(4) „ K. P. Karuppan Avl., do
(5) „ Kundur Narayana Menon Avl., B. A. (Member)
(6) „ P. Sankunni Menon Avl., B. A., L. T. (Member).
(7) „ Attur Krishna Pisharodi Avl. (Member).
(8) „ P. Raman Menon Avl., B. A. and B. L., Secretary.

The term of this Committee was extended for some time on account of the delay in forming a fresh Committee.

The present Committee is constituted with the following personnel.—

(1) M. R. Ry. Rao Shaib Ulloor S. Parameswara Ayyar (Chairman)
(2) „ P. Narayanan Nayar Avl.
(3) „ Kannangath Raman Menon Avl., B. A., B. L.
(4) „ G. Sankara Kurup (Vidwan) Avl.
(5) „ A. D. Hari Sarma Avl.
(6) „ P. M. Sanakaran Nambiyar Avl., Secretary.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—The Chairman belongs to Trivandrum, I suppose?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I think he is generally residing at Trivandrum.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—The Second gentleman belongs to Nemmara. Am I not right?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Two others belong to Trichur and the other two to Ernakulam. Am I right?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The last two are resident at Ernakulam at present, and the first two resident at Trichur.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Has the Government any idea of the T. A. Mr. Parameswara Ayyar would claim for his journeys to Trichur and back?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—He told me he would claim only his actual cost.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Has the Government any idea of the actual cost?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I have not calculated.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Are the Government aware that the Department would require more amount for the T. A. now than before?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It involves the question of distance etc. I am not in a position to give a reply immediately. I think the Hon'ble member is correct in saying that the present personnel would require more for T. A. than before.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—May I know, Sir, whether the Government have made any enquiries as to whether there was any body in the State itself to be the Chairman of the Committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—We requested His Highness the Appan Tampuran. But His Highness refused. Only after that we requested the present Chairman.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.— May I know, Sir, whether Mr. Parameswara Ayyar is not one who occupies a very high place in Malayalam among the Researchers and poets?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—He occupies one of the highest places.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon.—Is not the gentleman one of the members of the Board of Studies?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—He is.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.— Has the Government followed the same rules with regard to the selection of the other members of the committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The same principle has been followed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Did His Highness give any reasons for not being able to serve in the committee.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—He gave reasons which expressed a general dissatisfaction with the personnel and constitution of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

committee and secondly, if I remember right, he said he can't work under the present constitution.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know who formed the present constitution?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Government formed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is it the idea of the Government to make it a Government institution or a non-official body?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I don't understand the application of that discrimination. It is constituted by the Government and composed of the public.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What was the objection of allowing His Highness the Appan Tampuran to be in charge independent of the Director of Public Instruction if a man of his position and ability and status was prepared to undertake the running of non-official institution like this?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—He never expressed that he had any objection to the practice. He simply expressed his dissatisfaction about the rules of working as well as the constitution of the Committee.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know whether there were any rules originally existing with regard to this institution?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—As far as I know there were no rules before.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—Excepting the Chairman are the five Members the best Malayalee intellects to be obtained in the State of Cochin and Travancore?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There is no such assumption.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—Then how is it that Government says that it has followed the same rule in selecting members for the Malayalam Improvement Committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—We were trying to get hold of the very best available men. A similar request was made to Mr. Krishna Pisharodi. He also refused.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What was the necessity for changing the first rules?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There were no rules. Some definite rules for the working of this Committee were formulated by Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Am I to take it that there were no rules at all?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—There were no rules laid down by Government.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—How many gentlemen have refused to be members of the Committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Appan Thampuran and Krishna Pisharodi to continue as Chairman and Member respectively.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—Excepting those two, those on the list are the best available men. Am I to understand so?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Government have to take more than one thing into consideration. The other things being equal, they have chosen the best.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—What are the reasons given by Krishna Pisharodi?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I will give you one important reason. The rules contained that people should be willing to carry on research work. He is carrying on research work and he is being remunerated for it and he is not prepared to do honorary research work. That is one reason.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is the research work a condition precedent?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is one of the conditions.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Is Mr. Kannangath Raman Menon a notable figure in the literary field of Malayalam?

Mr I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was it not a practice to have one or more members of this House since its inauguration to sit on the Malayalam Improvement Committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar.—Was His Highness requested to make a constructive criticism to the constitution to which he took objection?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—At first it was a question of refusal. I wrote to him on the subject to know what exactly was irksome to him and then he said that he did not approve of the contitution or rules and therefore he refused to serve.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Did the Government approach anybody in Cochin other than Appan Tampuran?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Did the Government appoint persons of real literary merit without understanding their literary qualifications?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Other things being equal I said members of this Committee will serve other purposes than research.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Am I to take it that Mr. Kannangath Raman Menon was made a member for purposes other than the improvement of the Malayalam language?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It is for more literary merit than research work.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Is not Mr. Kannangath Raman Menon the Secretary to the Committee?

Mr. A. Narayana Menon.— Is Mr. Kannangath Raman Menon a poet and has he not also experience of journalism?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.— Were the new rules so framed as to get rid of the services of His Highness the Appan Tampuran?

Mr. I. N. Menon.— Government should resent such question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know what was the reason to go in after foreigners?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—On the field of literature there is no such thing as foreigner.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Were not the Government aware of persons other than Appan Tampuran and Krishna Pisharodi?

The Maharaja's College.

64. **Mr. P. Raman Menon.**— Will the Government be pleased to state.—

Is the Maharaja's College a self-supporting institution now?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—No.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—May I know what is the approximate deficit?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—In the current year the estimates suggest about Rs. 1,69,000 by way of expenditure and about Rs. 57,000 by way of receipts.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly